

OKEHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health
of the District
for the Year
1968

Presented by

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ANNUAL REPORT
on
THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT during 1968

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS,

I beg to present herewith the Annual Report of the Health of the District during 1968, drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/69, dated January 1969.

The estimated population mid-year was 11,300, that is 40 less than in 1967. The standardised Birth Rate of 16.9 per 1,000 population is lower than 1967 (17.3) but the same as the National Rate of 16.9 (17.2 in 1967). The standardised Death Rate of 10.5 per 1,000 population is lower than 1967 (10.9) and lower than the National Rate of 11.9 (11.2 in 1967). The majority of deaths (82 out of 145) were due to Cardio-vascular diseases.

There was an exceptionally low incidence of infectious diseases – measles accounting for the majority, i.e. 23 cases. This low number was probably due to the measles immunisation programme which started in early summer before the onset of the 'measles season'.

There have been notifications of animal diseases once again, namely Brucellosis and Salmonella Dublin infection, the latter appears to be on the increase (*see* page 17).

Sanction was given by the Ministry for the Throwleigh Sewage Disposal Scheme to commence, and work started early in 1969 (*see* last year's report).

It has been a very difficult year for staffing, the new additional Public Health Inspector (Mr. Cantwell) not replacing Mr. Higgins, who resigned 30th June, 1967, until 10th June, 1968. Thus many of the statutory public health duties, such as inspection of food premises, etc., were inevitably neglected for twelve months.

The general health of the District continues to be good.


Finally, I should like to thank the Chairman, Councillors and Staff for their continued consideration and support.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors.

Your obedient Servant,

MARY E. BUDDING,

Medical Officer of Health.



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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

MARY E. BUDDING, M.B., B.CH., B.SC., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

L. E. LETHBRIDGE, M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

B. A. CANTWELL, M.A.P.H.I.
(commenced duties 10th June, 1968)

Public Health Inspector and Senior Meat Inspector

T. BURDUS

Senior Authorised Meat Inspector

T. McMILLAN

Authorised Meat Inspectors

M. BOOTH J. SHARKEY (Resigned 3rd Nov. 1968)

Clerk to the Department

Miss M. SAMPSON (resigned 7th September, 1968)

Miss B. DOWN (commenced duties 1st September, 1968)

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health

Miss E. M. HAMBLY, S.R.N. (Part-time)
(D.C.C. Clinic, 70 Plymouth Road, Tavistock)
Tavistock 2617

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

The following members of the Council served on the Public Health and Housing Committee during the year

Chairman: MR. S. P. S. PERKIN

MR. C. T. P. ABELL	MR. E. G. T. LOWE
MR. E. R. BADCOCK	MR. J. MORRIS
MR. G. BENNETT	MR. C. J. PETHERICK
LT.-COL. V. W. CALMADY-HAMLYN	MR. D. C. PHILIP
MR. P. CLEVERDON	MRS. P. B. RANSON
MR. F. DENNIS	MRS. R. A. RATTENBURY
REV. H. C. GEIPEL	MR. J. I. REDDAWAY
MR. F. GERRARD	MR. W. J. REED
MRS. M. M. HAMPSON	AIR COMMODORE SIR PERCY SMYTH-OSBOURNE
MR. J. HILL	MR. F. G. UNDERHILL
MAJOR W. R. A. KETTLE	MR. J. E. B. WELLS
COL. H. C. L. KINGSFORD-LETHBRIDGE	MR. F. C. WESTERN
MR. A. J. KNAPMAN	MR. W. W. WESTLAKE
MR. R. C. LEVENTHORPE	

SECTION "A"

General Statistics

Area (Statute acres)	132,516
Population – 1951 Census	12,629
Population – 1961 Census	11,994
Estimated mid-year population – 1968	11,300
Parishes	27
Number of inhabited dwellings	4,057
Rateable value	£241,709
Product of the Penny Rate	£948
Loan Debt	£867,256

Vital Statistics

LIVE BIRTHS	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	76	64	140
Illegitimate	5	4	9
			<hr/>
			149
DEATHS	80	65	145

POPULATION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Mid-year Population</i>	<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>
1964	11,470	16.3	12.5
1965	11,470	14.0	14.2
1966	11,390	13.9	13.5
1967	11,340	13.5	13.7
1968	11,300	13.2	12.8

LIVE BIRTHS

Number	149	<i>England and Wales</i>
Rate per 1,000 population	13.2	16.9
Standardised Birth Rate	16.9	

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS

(per cent of total births)	6%
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STILL BIRTHS

Number	2	
Rate per 1,000 total live/stillbirths	13.2	14

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS ... 151

INFANT DEATHS

(deaths under 1 year)	1
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INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	7	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	7	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	7	12.3
---	---	------

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	7	10.5
--	---	------

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

(stillbirths and deaths under 1 week
combined per 1,000 total live and
stillbirths)

20

25

MATERNAL MORTALITY

(including abortion)

Number of deaths

1

Rate per 1,000 total live and still-
births

6.6

DEATHS

Number of deaths

145

Crude death rate per 1,000 popu-
lation

12.8

11.9

Standardised death rate

10.5

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Benign tumours	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Endocrine diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mental disorders	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diseases of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hypertensive disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Heart diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Other diseases of the circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bronchitis and emphysema	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Complications of pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diseases of skin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital anomalies	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

AGE AT DEATH TABLE

						Male	Female
under 4 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
1—	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5—	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
15—	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
25—	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
35—	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
45—	...	...	...	...	...	2	5
55—	...	...	...	...	...	9	6
65—	...	...	...	...	...	28	20
75 and over	...	...	...	...	...	37	32
						—	—
						80	65

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services

1. Hospitals

There are two hospitals in the town. The Memorial Hospital (including maternity beds) and the Castle Hospital (for chronic sick and Geriatric cases). Both of these serve the town and also the large rural area outside the town.

2. County Council Health Services

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council provides the following services (based largely on the Okehampton Health Centre, Okehampton 2231, in the grounds of the Memorial Hospital, also providing accommodation for the General Practitioners in the town):

Domiciliary Midwifery, Home Nursing, Health Visitors, supervisory care of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five, School Medical Service, Home Help Services, Chiropody, Occupation Therapy, Speech Therapy, Dental service for children up to school-leaving age, expectant and nursing mothers; Mental Health service, Vaccination and Immunisation procedures. A Cervical Cytology Clinic for early detection of cervical cancer was started during 1967. In addition, the Orthopaedic Clinic is held each Monday on the premises.

The Ambulance Service is run under delegated powers by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, providing a 24-hour cover for the whole district.

3. Meals on Wheels

Mrs. Young (Chagford), the W.R.V.S. Organiser of the service, reports that about twenty-six households are served with meals cooked and distributed from Chagford. These are not only in the parish of Chagford, but sent to homes in the parishes of South Zeal, Crockernwell and Throwleigh. It is hoped to extend the service to Folly Gate and Hatherleigh, from Okehampton, when Tenby House kitchen is available there for the preparation of the food, which it is hoped will be early in the New Year.

4. War Memorial Hospital Maternity Unit

During the year 88 babies were born in the hospital:

Okehampton Borough	...	...	26
Okehampton Rural District	...	...	52
Other Districts	...	...	10
			—
			88
			==

Thirty-five per cent of the total births for the Rural District took place in the War Memorial Hospital.

5. Laboratory Services

Bacteriological examinations of specimens and of samples of milk, water, ice cream, etc., are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter, and any chemical analyses by the Public Analyst at Exeter.

6. Mass Radiography Unit

The Unit continued to visit every other week throughout the year, as advertised in the local press. A total of 359 were X-rayed with results as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Total number X-rayed	202	157	359
ABNORMALITIES			
Tuberculosis – requiring treatment ...	–	–	–
requiring observation ...	2	–	2
inactive	2	2	4
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	–	1
Pulmonary Fibrosis	2	–	2
Pleural Thickening	–	1	1
Cardio-Vascular Disease acquired	3	1	4
Pulmonary infections	1	3	4
Residual Fibrosis	–	1	1
TOTAL ABNORMALITIES ...	11	8	19

SECTION “C”

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

Mr. E. A. Robb, the Chief Engineer of the North Devon Water Board has kindly supplied the following information on his Board’s progress during the year:

“The supply for this area is derived from (1) Intakes on the West Okement River with subsequent treatment in the form of filtration, pH correction and sterilization at Prewley Works, and (2) from wells on Taw Marsh with subsequent treatment, pH correction and sterilization at Belstone Works.

During the summer months when the available yield from the West Okement was inadequate it was necessary to augment the supply by pumping raw water from Meldon Lake to Prewley Treatment Works. In addition the emergency sources at North Tawton and Chagford were introduced to augment the main Dartmoor supplies.

Regular chemical and bacteriological samples were taken from those sources and also from the distribution systems and found to be satisfactory.

The distribution system has been maintained satisfactorily at all times, in both quantity and quality, although it was necessary to introduce hosepipe restrictions and a ban was placed on hosepipes for washing cars and the watering of gardens from 15th June to 3rd October. Mains renewals have taken place to renew old corroded mains and where necessary mains extensions have been laid. Housing developments have been provided with mains and services where required and new connections given to additional properties.

In December, 1968, the Minister of Housing and Local Government brought into being the North Devon (Meldon Reservoir) Water Order, 1966 to meet the needs of the Board by the construction of a reservoir in the Meldon Valley on the West Okement near Okehampton.

The Board’s staff and Consulting Engineers are actively engaged in the design of these works to enable site works to commence as soon as possible.

Civil Engineering works of this magnitude will, however, take some time to complete and during the interim period the supply position to the areas fed from the Dartmoor sources will in the event of ‘drought conditions’ be extremely critical.”

The unsatisfactory samples from Chagford and North Tawton supplies (to be seen in tables at end of this report) were in respect of local supplies used in

emergency only and the water was not put into use until satisfactory samples had been received.

(A table relating to the water supplies in each of the District's twenty-seven parishes, will be found attached to the inner back cover of this Report.)

Analysis of Water Supplies (Private and Public)

The following samples were taken by the Public Health Inspectors during the year:

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Bacteriological examination of water	18	11	7
Chemical examination of water	1	1	—

When considering applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing Acts the Council maintained their policy that any water supply, not on public mains, was to be proved bacteriologically sound by the Public Health Department before grant aid could be proceeded with. In this connection six samples were obtained from six properties, five of which passed, and advice given to the owner on the other to undertake works to enable a further sample to be taken at a later date.

Seven samples were obtained from a well supplying a block of four Council houses and these were taken during periods of dry weather and after heavy rain. Although the Medical Officer of Health could not categorically state that the supply was unsatisfactory there were considerable variations in the purity and she formed the opinion that the supply was unreliable. These investigations were made because of a child suffering from an infectious intestinal condition, and the Council decided to give due consideration to the provision of a mains supply to the houses. Four samples were obtained from a source near the Hatherleigh Abattoir with a view to its use for washing down in the premises. Two failed and two passed and because of this it was treated as an unreliable source and not proceeded with.

One sample taken from a privately-owned property was bacteriologically unsound and the property concerned, because of its unfit condition, was closed by the owner who gave a written undertaking that it would not be used for human habitation until rendered fit for that purpose.

Sewerage and Drainage

1. Towns, villages and hamlets in the Rural District for which satisfactory and adequate systems have been provided, with dates of completion:

BRATTON CLOVELLY ...	1963	
BRIDESTOWE ...	1938	
CHAGFORD ...	1961	
CROCKERNWELL ...	1954	
DREWSTEIGNTON ...	1965	
ENBOURNE ...	1958	
FOLLY GATE ...	1963	
HATHERLEIGH ...	1963	
MONKOKEHAMPTON ...	1955	
NORTHLEW ...	1959	
NORTH TAWTON ...	1962	
SAMPFORD CHAPPLE ...	1964	
SAMPFORD COURTENAY	1961	
SANDY PARK ...	1951	
SOURTON ...	1960	
SOUTH TAWTON AND SOUTH ZEAL ...	1934	with subsequent extensions and additions to disposal works in 1955
SPREYTON ...	1966	
STICKLEPATH (SOUTH)	1960	
WHIDDON DOWN ...	1962	

2. Villages in respect of which work has commenced:

MEETH ... This Contract was completed in the spring, and the Official Opening made on 10th April, 1968. At the end of the year many of the properties had connected to the new sewers, and owners of others were in course of preparing drawings for joining up to the sewers

3. Villages with main water available for which schemes have been prepared or are in course of preparation:

BROADWOODKELLY
BRIDESTOWE
IDDESLEIGH
JACOBSTOWE
HIGHAMPTON
SAMPFORD COURTENAY
(Station Area)

} Due to the economic situation, all work on the preparation of these schemes has been temporarily suspended

BELSTONE
STICKLEPATH
SOUTH ZEAL AND
SOUTH TAWTON

} Decisions were taken during the year on sites for disposal works and pumping stations and planning approvals received

THROWLEIGH ... Tenders for this scheme were submitted to the Council and a figure of £34,008. 0s. 0d. was accepted and approved by the Ministry. It was expected that work would commence early in the New Year.

4. Sewerage (General)

(a) SAMPLES OF EFFLUENT

Both the Devon and Cornwall River Authorities maintained regular analyses of sewage effluents and although there were border-line failures from time to time there were no really bad samples. At North Tawton, however, several samples were returned with a high suspended solids content and the Council adopted the recommendation of the Chief Public Health Inspector that the Consulting Engineers, who designed the scheme, should be asked to investigate the reason for this, particularly as it was likely to be related to the North Tawton Development Plan which was in course of preparation.

(b) SLUDGE REMOVAL

Trouble was again experienced during the year in the removal and disposal of sludge from the larger works, namely Chagford, North Tawton and South Zeal. Labour for this work was proving to be costly and difficult. It was decided to extend the method adopted at Hatherleigh by converting one or more drying beds into slow digestion tanks. This method has worked very well for sludge can be held for a period of six weeks and completely removed by tanker to agricultural land. This avoided leaving beds for long periods to enable drying to take place, gave men more time to maintain works with better working conditions, and almost completely eliminated nuisances from smells.

(c) GENERAL ITEMS

Bridestowe

New arms were fitted to the sprinkler over the percolating filter.

Bratton Clovelly

Because of subsidence in the banks of the ditch taking effluent and storm water from the sewage works some thirty yards was piped and the ditch filled in.

Anti-Flooding Schemes - North Tawton

On account of flooding of property at Lakeway, North Tawton, negotiations were entered into with the Devon County Council regarding a small scheme to overcome it. It was finally agreed that if the work was undertaken by the Devon County Council Roads Department the Rural District Council would, without prejudice, meet half the costs, the total cost being estimated at £150. Works were to be put in hand at the beginning of the New Year.

Rodent and Pest Control

During the spring and autumn sewers were treated at Exbourne, Hatherleigh, North Tawton, South Tawton and South Zeal. Baits were laid in 201 manholes in the systems and twenty takes recorded. Regular attention was directed to Council installations, tips, sewage works and outfalls and any infestation kept rigidly under control. As in the previous year complaints received of rat infestation were extremely few and in all cases advice given produced satisfactory results.

Refuse Collection

This service, undertaken by the Council's own labour and vehicles continued satisfactorily, and very few complaints were received. By readjustments of routes extensions of the service were made in the following parishes

<i>Bondleigh</i>	Cadditon Cross (six properties)
<i>Bratton Clovelly</i>	Domons to Boasley Cross (eight properties)
<i>Iddesleigh</i>	Netherton Cross to Bondstones (nine properties)
	Pixton Lane (four properties)

The Dartmoor National Park Committee asked for a further extension of the litter collection service to include the Skaigh Valley, Belstone, during the holiday season. This was agreed as to siting, frequency of collection, and financial reimbursement.

The Chief Public Health Inspector reported that the tip at Bondleigh had become almost full and should be run down. Arrangements were made for suitable final covering and reducing of tip contours and use of the tip ceased after 31st March, 1968.

Tour of the District

Arrangements were made in October for the Councillors and their wives to tour various places and installations administered by the Council and the North Devon Water Board. Among places visited were South Zeal Housing Estate, Sewage Works at Chagford, new car park at Chagford, Fingle Bridge, proposed Meldon Dam, Belstone Water Works and Taw Marsh.

Inspection of the District and Public Health Services

The number of complaints received on Public Health matters and recorded was thirty-nine.

The following table sets out the inspections made by the Public Health Inspector during the year.

Type of Premises	Number of Inspections	Number of Intimation Notices Served	Number of Intimation Notices Complied with
Houses Inspected	59	33	32
Reinspections	105	—	—
Premises, other than those men- tioned below	30	5	5
Food Premises	125	5	20
Refuse Disposal and Scavenging	285	2	2
Public Conveniences	113	—	—
Infectious Diseases	27	—	—
Water Supplies	25	2	2
Sewerage and Drainage	550	5	5
Rivers and Streams	11	—	—
Petroleum Acts	13	—	—
Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yard	256	3	4
Rodent Control	50	4	4
Moveable Dwellings	25	1	1
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	14	1	—
Animal Boarding Establishments	3	—	—
Pets Act	3	—	—
Explosives Act	2	—	—
Civic Amenities Act	11	3	3
Miscellaneous	79	—	—
	1,786	64	78

Factories Act

Tables relating to these Acts will be found later in the Report.

SECTION "D"

Housing

Individual Unfit Houses - Year ended 31st December, 1968

HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS		Number of Persons	
		Houses	Displaced
1. Demolition and Closing Orders Housing Act, 1957			
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal pro- cedure under Section 17 (1) or informally ...		6	8
(b) Local Authority-owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health		—	—
(c) Houses, or parts of houses, closed under Section (4) and 18 (1)		3	11
2. REPAIRS			
Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the year as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing Acts		66	
(Included in this number are 34 houses improved by aid of Standard Improvement Grants)			

I am indebted to Mr. L. G. Bailey (the Surveyor and Engineer) for the following information:

Town and Country Planning, 1962

Applications for development under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts, 1947/1962, the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations, 1960, the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and Building Regulations, 1965, have been received over the past twelve months as follows:

Alterations and Conversions	...	...	...	202
Farm Buildings	...	...	...	93
Advertisement Signs	...	...	...	50
Public Works	...	...	...	22
New Dwellings	...	...	...	90
Caravans	...	...	...	5
TOTAL				462

Of the above total, forty applications have been refused.

Private Enterprise

Private Enterprise produced seventeen new houses during the year.

Improvement Grants

The number of applications for Improvement Grants under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949, Section 30 of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958; and the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 with amendments, totals 792. Of this total 505 have received approval, 85 have been disapproved and 202 have been considered in outline and have either been withdrawn, or formal applications are awaited.

New Council Houses

The last eleven houses were completed at the Hillfield Estate, South Zeal, and the Old Police House at Exbourne was acquired by the Council.

COUNCIL HOUSES IN THE RURAL DISTRICT

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Situation</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings</i>	<i>Total No. in Parish</i>
BEAWORTHY	Black Hill	2	
	Patchacott	2	4
BELSTONE	Tor Down	6	6
BONDLEIGH	Village	4	4
BRATTON CLOVELLY	Beech Cottages	3	
	Church Meadow	8	11
	Princess Elizabeth Terrace	8	
BRIDESTOWE	Brid Close	4	12
	The Villas	4	
BROADWOODKELLY	Splatt	1	5
	Dennis Park	33	
	Biera View	8	
	Orchard Meadow	35	
CHAGFORD	New Street	4	80
	Lamb's Park	4	
	Knowle Lane	4	
	Turnpike Road,		
DREWSTEIGNTON	Whiddon Down	4	
	Exeter Road,		
	Whiddon Down	4	16

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Situation</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings</i>	<i>Total No. in Parish</i>
EXBOURNE ...	Cawsand View ...	3	
	The Shrubbery ...	6	9
GERMANSWEEK ...	—	—	—
GIDLEIGH ...	—	—	—
HATHERLEIGH ...	Moor View Terrace ...	12	
	Higher Street ...	6	
	Normandy Place ...	4	
	Claremont Place ...	20	42
HIGHAMPTON ...	High View ...	2	2
IDDESLEIGH ...	Winkleigh View ...	4	4
INWARDLEIGH ...	Misdon Cottages, Folly Gate ...	6	
	New Road, Folly Gate ...	23	29
JACOBSTOWE ...	—	—	—
MEETH ...	Station Road ...	10	10
MONKOKEHAMPTON ...	East View ...	2	2
NORTHLEW ...	Costloes ...	4	
WITH ASHBURY ...	Moor View ...	6	10
NORTH TAWTON ...	Barton Hill ...	16	
	Fore Street ...	8	
	Essington – Arundell Road ...	20	
	Gowmans ...	14	
	North Street ...	1	59
OKEHAMPTON ...	Chichacott ...	4	
HAMLETS ...	Peacewater ...	2	6
SAMPFORD ...	Four Acres ...	4	
COURTNEY ...	Station View ...	4	
	Cross Hill, Tongue End ...	2	
	Queens Haye, Sticklepath ...	6	16
SOURTON ...	Broad View ...	4	
	Windard Terrace ...	6	
	Corn Ridge View, Sourton Down ...	6	16
SOUTH TAWTON ...	Hill Crest ...	8	
	Cross Park, South Zeal ...	10	
	The Croft, South Zeal ...	24	
	Hillfield, South Zeal ...	40	
	Barn Close, Whiddon Down ...	10	92
SPREYTON ...	Cross Meadow ...	6	
	Sprayton Close ...	4	10
THROWLEIGH ...	Clampitts ...	6	
	Higher Hay ...	2	8
TOTAL ...			<u>453</u>

SECTION "E"

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Food Premises

The number of food premises classified as within the scope of the Food Hygiene Regulations is as follows:

Hotels, Public Houses and Inns	...	...	50
Schools, and other Canteens	...	...	15
Cafes, Restaurants and Guest Houses	...	...	23
Food Shops	...	...	43
Bed and Breakfast Premises	...	...	40
Bakeries	...	...	9
Butchers' Shops	...	...	12
			<hr/>
			192
			<hr/>

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is:

Ice Cream	...	...	53
Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted or pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	...	...	10

Disposal of Condemned Food

Unsound meat from slaughterhouses continued to be sent to manufacturers of fertilizers, in sealed containers, and at the two larger slaughterhouses a very regular transport service for removal was provided. The very small quantity of unsound canned goods surrendered as unfit for human consumption was disposed of at the refuse tips.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (Food Hygiene Regulations)

The new additional Public Health Inspector commenced his duties on 10th June, 1968, and this is reflected in the attention able to be given to the inspection of food premises.

Two points of interest emerged from these inspections. In the first place, a tour of the trunk and holiday roads on a Saturday morning in the busy season was made for the purpose of inspecting mobile catering stalls trading from laybys. As a result, two mobile catering stalls were found in operation. Neither were up to the required standards and after discussions with the owner one was withdrawn from service and the other brought up to satisfactory condition.

Secondly, a temporary structure used as a cafe, mainly by heavy transport, was unsatisfactory and conditions found were considered to be offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The Chief Public Health Inspector reported this to the Council who decided that a letter should be sent to the effect that if any similar conditions were found on a future occasion, the Council may institute proceedings without further warning being given. Later inspections revealed that the premises were being kept in a satisfactory condition.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-1952

The manufacture of ice cream on a small scale continued at a premises at Hatherleigh during the summer months. Inspections made of the conditions of manufacture and cleanliness gave no cause for complaint.

Ice Cream

TWO applications for registration of premises for the sale of ice cream were made, and approved by the Council.

Unsound Food

TWO certificates were issued during the year resulting in 31 lb. 3 oz. of unsound meat being surrendered by the owners for disposal from places other than the slaughterhouses.

Slaughterhouses

In July, 1968, Hatherleigh Devon Meat Ltd., the company operating the recently constructed abattoir at Hatherleigh came under a Receiver and Manager. An application for a renewal of the slaughterhouse licence was made in his name at the end of the year.

In May, 1968, the trading Company operating from the slaughterhouse premises, The Exbourne Meat Supply, went into voluntary liquidation but the holding Company, Messrs. R. W. & B. Hayes Ltd., in whose name the licence was held, remained in existence.

Slaughtering recommenced in July at the premises but in view of the small output and by agreement, the permitted hours for the slaughtering of animals were amended to 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday and 6 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. on Saturday of each week, the change to take effect as from 1st October, 1968.

The number of carcasses inspected at the private slaughterhouses of the Rural District was 98,418, the figure being made up as follows:

Bovines	...	...	...	...	...	15,055
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	5,577
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	65,292
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	12,494
						<hr/> 98,418 <hr/>

Whilst this total is an increase on the figure of 84,899 for the year 1967, the anticipated throughput was materially affected by the financial difficulties experienced at the two main abattoirs, and at the end of the year the signs were of a decreasing output in both premises.

The total weight of meat and offal condemned was 82 tons 6 cwt. 26 lb. (25 tons 19 cwt. 21 lb. in 1967.)

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Fifty-eight applications were received for licences, or renewal of licences, to slaughter or stun animals, and in all cases they were granted.

Knackers Yard (Hatherleigh)

Regular inspections were made of these premises, which changed ownership during the year, but they were well conducted and no complaints of nuisances received.

Civic Amenities Act, 1967

This Act came into operation in July, 1968, and one of the duties placed upon the Local Authority is the removal of abandoned vehicles. By arrangement with scrap dealers at each end of the District such vehicles would be collected free of charge upon written request from the Chief Public Health Inspector, and by this arrangement four were collected and disposed of at the end of the year.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The total number of registered premises at the end of the year were:

<i>Premises</i>				<i>Number of persons employed</i>	
Offices	...	...	13	66	
Retail Shops	...	...	22	70	
Wholesale					
Warehouses	...		1	2	
Catering					
Establishments			4	24	
				<hr/> 40	<hr/> 162 <hr/>
				Males	96
				Females	66

Fourteen inspections of these premises were carried out.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	9,793	5,262	5,577	65,292	12,494
Number inspected ...	9,793	5,262	5,577	65,292	12,494
<i>All diseases, except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci –</i> Whole carcases condemned ...	12	80	58	534	35
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3,823	4,213	313	16,715	1,090
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	39.04%	80.00%	5.06%	25.76%	8.07%
<i>Tuberculosis only –</i> Whole carcases condemned ...	–	–	–	–	–
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	–	–	–	–	281
Percentage of the number affected with Tuberculosis ...	–	–	–	–	2.02%
<i>Cysticercosis –</i> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	2	–	–	–
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	1	2	–	–	–
Generalised and totally condemned	–	–	–	–	–

SECTION "F"

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

Tuberculosis

One new case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified – the Register stands as follows:

<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	
<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>
14	13	1	–	26	1

Infectious Diseases Notified by Medical Practitioners

			<i>Measles</i>		<i>Encephalitis</i>		<i>Pneumonia</i>	
			<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
Under 1 year	...	...	–	1	–	–	–	–
1 –	...	...	1	2	–	–	–	–
2 –	...	...	1	2	–	–	–	–
3 –	...	...	1	–	–	–	–	–
4 –	...	...	2	1	–	–	–	–
5 – 9	...	...	4	7	–	–	–	–
10 – 14	...	...	–	–	–	–	–	–
15 – 24	...	...	–	–	–	–	–	1
25 +	...	...	–	–	–	–	2	–
Unknown	...	...	1	–	–	1	–	1
TOTAL			10	13	–	1	2	2

Infectious Diseases Notified by Schools

<i>School</i>	<i>Chicken Pox</i>	<i>German Measles</i>
Spreyton C.P. ...	13	–
Sticklepath C.P. ...	11	–
Exbourne C.P. ...	–	5
TOTAL ...	24	5

Salmonella Dublin

This infection (in calves and, in one case, a cow) was reported by the Divisional Veterinary Officer in seven herds. These farms were visited and advised regarding personal hygiene precautions. No human cases of infection resulted.

Brucella Abortus

Owing to the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease, routine sampling of milk supplies ceased for many months. However, sampling showed infection to be present in three farms. These were retailer/producers of raw milk and they immediately ceased supplying raw milk until the infected animals were identified, and in each case slaughtered.

Salmonella Typhi-Murium

The City Hospital, Exeter, reported a case of this infection (phage 29) in a two year-old child. The water supply was tested and found to be satisfactory, and faecal samples from the five contacts were negative. No cause was found for the infection, and this appeared to be an isolated case.

Factories' Act, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspection</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	27	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	32	27	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were Found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors ...	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient;	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable, or Defective;	1	5	—	—	—
(c) Not Separate for the Sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences (not including Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	7	—	—	—

3. OUT-WORK (Sections 133 and 134)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	SECTION 133		
	<i>Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>Number of cases of default in sending lists to Council</i>	<i>Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>
Wearing Apparel ...	3	—	—
Knitting	1	—	—
Glove Making	—	—	—

<i>Nature of Work</i>	SECTION 134		
	<i>Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing Apparel ...	—	—	—
Knitting	—	—	—
Glove Making ...	—	—	—

OKEHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT WATER SUPPLIES (1968)

PARISH	Whether the water supply of the area and its several parts has been satisfactory (a) in quality (b) in quantity	Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply: if so, how many and the results obtained: the results of any chemical analyses	Where the waters are liable to have plumbolient action, the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken and number and results of analyses	Action in respect of any form of contamination	Particulars of the number of dwellinghouses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains			
					(a) direct to the houses (b) by means of standpipes		Total Population	
					No. of Dwellinghouses	Standpipe	Main	Standpipe
ASHBURY with NORTHLEW	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 sample taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	174	—	522	—
BEAWORTHY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	46	—	138	—
BELSTONE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 3 samples taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	98	—	294	—
BONDLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 2 Samples taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	36	—	108	—
BRATTON CLOVELLY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	108	—	324	—
BRIDESTOWE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	145	—	435	—
BROADWOOD-KELLY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	53	—	159	—
CHAGFORD	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 9 Samples taken – 2 unsatisfactory from local supply used in emergency	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	417	—	1,251	—
DREWS-TEIGNTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 5 samples taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	144	—	432	—
EXBOURNE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 sample taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	111	—	333	—
GERMANS-WEEK	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	37	—	111	—
GIDLEIGH	(a) Un-satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	No piped supply Private supply only	Nil	Nil	3	—	9	—
HATHERLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 4 samples taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	356	—	1,068	—
HIGHAMPTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	53	—	159	—
IDDESLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	60	—	180	—
INWARDLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	109	—	327	—
JACOBSTOWE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 4 samples taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	24	—	72	—
MEETH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	42	—	126	—
MONK-OKEHAMPTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 sample taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	48	—	144	—
NORTH TAWTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 18 samples taken – 11 unsatisfactory from local supply used in emergency	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	438	—	1,314	—
OKEHAMPTON HAMLETS	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	32	—	96	—
SAMPFORD COURTENAY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 sample taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	158	—	474	—
SOURTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	100	—	300	—
SOUTH TAWTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 sample taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	393	—	1,179	—
SPREYTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	97	—	291	—
THROWLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	58	—	174	—

Samples were taken from the sources of supply as follows:
BELSTONE: 26 samples taken – all satisfactory
WEST OKEMENT: 52 samples taken – all satisfactory

